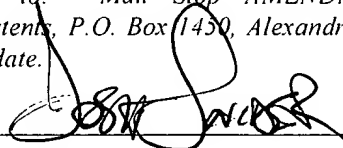


PATENT APPLICATION 2137  
Ifw

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In U.S. Application )  
)  
Applicants: Kobayashi et al. )  
)  
Serial No.: 09/187,700 )  
)  
Conf. No.: 3400 )  
)  
Filed: November 6, 1998 )  
)  
For: STORAGE MEDIUM AND )  
METHOD AND APPARATUS )  
FOR SEPARATELY )  
PROTECTING DATA IN )  
DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE )  
STORAGE MEDIUM )  
)  
Art Unit: 2137 )  
)  
Examiner: Nguyen, Minh Dieu T. )

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

June 16, 2005  
Date  
  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Registration No. 47,954

TRANSMITTAL

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-150

Dear Sir:

- (X) Enclosed is a Response to Election/Restriction Requirement.
- (X) If a Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for an extension of time for response is required to make the attached response timely and does not separately accompany this transmittal, Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for an extension of time for response in the above-identified application for the period required to make the attached response timely.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

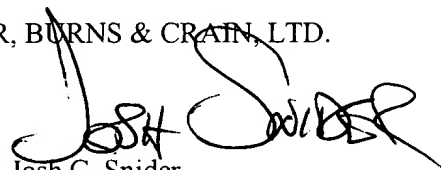
Customer No. 24978

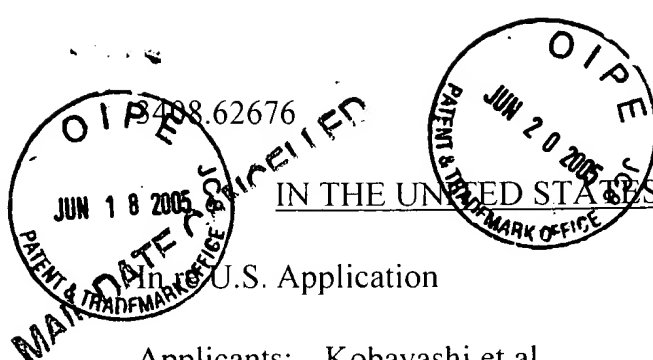
June 16, 2005

300 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Tel: (312) 360-0080  
Fax: (312) 360-9315  
P:\DOCS\0941\67479\679673.DOC

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAN, LTD.

By   
Josh C. Snider  
Registration No. 47,954



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In U.S. Application

Applicants: Kobayashi et al.

Serial No.: 09/187,700

Conf. No.: 3400

Filed: November 6, 1998

For: STORAGE MEDIUM AND  
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Art Unit: 2137

Examiner: Nguyen, Minh Dieu T.

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Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA  
22313-1450, on this date.

June 16, 2005

Date

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Registration No. 47,954

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Election/Restriction Requirement mailed May 16, 2005, Applicants  
elect Group I, claims 1-20, and 25-26, without traverse.

Respectfully submitted,

**Customer No. 24978**

June 16, 2005

300 South Wacker Drive

Suite 2500

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: (312) 360-0080

Facsimile: (312) 360-9315

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GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By

Josh C. Snider

Registration No. 47,954